

MAR 15 2006

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

**CATHY A. CATTERSON, CLERK
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS**

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

REINA DE LA PAZ RIVERA,

Petitioner,

v.

ALBERTO R. GONZALES, Attorney
General,

Respondent.

No. 04-74980

Agency No. A79-773-252

MEMORANDUM^{*}

On Petition for Review of an Order of the
Board of Immigration Appeals

Submitted March 8, 2006^{**}

Before: CANBY, BEEZER, and KOZINSKI, Circuit Judges.

Reina de la Paz Rivera, a native and citizen of El Salvador, petitions for review of an order of the Board of Immigration Appeals dismissing her appeal from an immigration judge's order denying her application for asylum and

^{*} This disposition is not appropriate for publication and may not be cited to or by the courts of this circuit except as provided by 9th Cir. R. 36-3.

^{**} The panel unanimously finds this case suitable for decision without oral argument. *See* Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2).

withholding of removal. We have jurisdiction pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1252.

Reviewing for substantial evidence, *Cruz-Navarro v. INS*, 232 F.3d 1024, 1028 (9th Cir. 2000), we deny the petition for review.

Substantial evidence supports the agency's determination that Rivera did not establish past persecution or a well-founded fear of future persecution on account of a protected ground. The evidence does not compel the conclusion that drug dealers threatened Rivera on account of a political opinion they imputed to her because her cousin's boyfriend was a police officer. *See id.* at 1030.

Because Rivera failed to establish eligibility for asylum, she necessarily failed to meet the more stringent standard for withholding of removal. *See id.* at 1031.

PETITION FOR REVIEW DENIED.